

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 03895 070910Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 016151

O P 070854Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4802

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 3895

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US, SY

SUBJECT: KAGNEW FOUR

REF: A. DAMASCUS 3893; B. KHARTOUM 2344

1. ITALIAN EMBASSY

OFFICER MET AGAIN WITH POLOFF LATE OCT. 6 AND PROVIDED FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING ITALIAN EFFORTS ON KAGNEW FOUR. ITALIAN SAID NAME OF PLF REP FROM KUWAIT WHO MET WITH ITALIAN AMB IN JIDDA (PARA 2, REF A) WAS MUHAMMAD ALI AMIN, AND ADDED THAT AMIN CLAIMED HE HAD SEEN AMERICANS (NUMBER OF HOSTAGES NOT GIVEN BY REP) FEW DAYS PREVIOUSLY. THIS WAS REPORTED IN CABLE DATED OCT. 3.

2. ITALIAN STATED THAT SECOND CABLE OCT. 3 FROM CAIRO REPORTED CONVERSATION WITH WOLDE MARRIAM (PHON), PLF REP IN CAIRO WHO ALSO

SAID EXECUTION HAD BEEN POSTPONED. ACCORDING TO ITALIAN, MARRIAM EMPHASIZED NEED FOR DIRECT CONTACTS WITH AMERICANS.

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3. BIO DATA: ITALIAN STATED FURTHER THAT PLF PUBLIC RELATIONS

CHIEF IN BEIRUT ASBEROM AND PLF LEADER OSMAN SABBE HAD VISITED
ROME OVER ONE MONTH AGO, PRIOR TO KIDNAPPING, TO REQUEST MEDICAL
SUPPLIES FROM GOI. CAIRO REP MARRIAM IS CHRISTIAN AND REPORTEDLY
IN TOP FIVE OF PLF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP.
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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